

## A NEGRO HIGHWAYMAN

Attacks Y. M. Langdon With a Piece of Gas Pipe, Knocking Him Senseless.

### HE EVIDENTLY INTENDED ROBBERY.

While Trying to Search Langdon's Pocket, He Was Frightened Off and Made His Escape—A Shooting Scrape at Houston.

DALLAS, Tex., Oct. 23.—Last night about 9:30 Mr. Y. M. Langdon got off a street car near the corner of Live Oak and Peak streets and was proceeding to his home close by when a negro highwayman struck him on the head with a piece of gaspipe, knocking him senseless. The negro then bent over his prostrate form, seemingly for the purpose of searching his pockets, but was driven off by one of the passengers on the street car who, having witnessed the assault, jumped off the car and ran to Mr. Langdon's rescue. Mr. Langdon was taken to his home in an unconscious condition, and it was feared he could not live until morning. Mounted police and deputy sheriffs were on the scene soon after the assault was made, but no trail of the negro could be discovered. It was suggested that bloodhounds be put on the trail, but none of these animals could be secured. Assistant Chief of Police Cornwell found in the street the piece of gas pipe with which the assault had been committed. It was two and one-half feet long by one and a quarter inches in diameter, and seemed to have been taken from some plumber's shop, as it had never been in the ground. No clew.

### A Shooting at Houston.

HOUSTON, Tex., Oct. 23.—Saturday night at a frolic in Chanceryville two negroes, George Bragg and Arthur Jordan, had a difficulty. The latter got his gun and they met. Bragg shot twice but missed his man, who ran. Deputy Sheriff Thompson pursued, and as he drew near the negro turned to fire, but the officer shot him in the left breast near the heart, in the side of the head and through the right and left arm, the former being broken and the latter getting a deep flesh wound. It is thought the negro will die. The two wounds in the arms were made by the same ball. There were only three shots fired by Thompson.

### An Accidental Death.

FLORESVILLE, Tex., Oct. 17.—James Hobbs, a well known young man of Floresville, accidentally shot and killed himself Sunday morning. He was practicing the rapid handling of a six-shooter at home and it accidentally went off in his hand as he was twirling it. The barrel was pointed toward his body and the ball went in at his right side, ranged upward, came out near the left shoulder and struck the roof. His only words after he was shot were, "Pa, I have killed myself."

### Took Chloral.

BREVILLE, Tex., Oct. 20.—A suicide was discovered yesterday by the Aransas Pass section men, three miles north of Beeville. The victim was a Scotchman about 40 years old. He left a statement giving the name of Robert Spranger, requesting that his mother at Keith, Scotland, be notified; could not get work, was tired of life and suicided with chloral. He is supposed to be a tramp. Officers took charge of the body.

### Charged With Malpractice.

GRAHAM, Tex., Oct. 18.—Dr. Fowler of Roundtimbers, Baylor county, and Dr. Wells of Olney, Young county, were brought before "Squire Starrat Monday by Sheriff Henry Williams, charged with malpractice. They waived examination and gave bond. The inquest over the three persons poisoned three weeks ago led to the arrest.

### Head End Collision.

VAN ALSTINE, Tex., Oct. 20.—There was a rear end collision at Howe Wednesday night between two freight trains. While local freight No. 5 was standing on the main track unloading freight No. 11, a through freight, dashed into the caboose and demolished one end. The accident was due to the failure of the air brakes to work.

### Fell Dead at His Wife's Door.

SAN ANGELO, Tex., Oct. 21.—J. H. Mathews, a prominent citizen of Lampasas, arose Thursday night at 11 o'clock and went out in the yard for some purpose, and just as he reached his wife's door he fell dead from heart disease.

### A Joint Raided.

HOUSTON, Tex., Oct. 21.—Last night the police raided a joint kept by Eliza Sanders, Cramer and Holloway, and lodged in the calaboose over twenty women. The keepers were charged with keeping a disorderly house.

### Lost All His Money.

DALLAS, Tex., Oct. 21.—Yesterday morning a young countryman came to

the city on the Santa Fe train to take in the fair. He brought a roll of money with him and not much worldly experience. A couple of negroes approached him and tried to work him with a trick lock, but he wouldn't bite. They then asked him if he had seen the white elephant. He replied that he had not. They told him that the white elephant was a short distance down the railroad track and would be driven out to the fair grounds in a few minutes. They offered to conduct him to the stable of the beautiful animal. He wanted to see the elephant, and down the track toward the reservation they started. After going quite a distance one of the negroes asked the young man if he could change a \$5 bill. He was willing to accommodate him, and pulled a \$10 bill, a \$5 bill and some change out of his pocket. The money was promptly snatched out of his hand by the negro and the next moment he was alone, with no white elephant in sight and the negro going out of sight.

### A Palestine Tragedy.

PALESTINE, Tex., Oct. 19.—Yesterday evening at 6:30 Peyton Graves, a grocery merchant and an old citizen of Palestine, entered Fox & Luxa's store on Spring street where Nat Blackshear was employed as a salesman, and with some remarks which no one overheard, both men began shooting at each other. Graves fired four shots when his pistol, which was a .44, hung fire and would not discharge. Blackshear emptied his .35-caliber. Graves walked out of the building and down the sidewalk a few feet and fell. He was carried home and died as they were entering the gate. Blackshear was shot in the stomach, which may prove fatal. About eighteen months ago Blackshear married the youngest daughter of the widow Rollins, in this city, without the mother's consent. The marriage was a very romantic one, the couple having stolen a march on Mrs. Rollins by the young lady's jumping from a window while the rest of the family were asleep. A license was obtained in Cherokee county and the marriage was a success. The young couple have lived happily together since then and now have one child. Shortly after the marriage of her daughter Mrs. Rollins married Peyton Graves, the man who now lies in his coffin with three bullets in his right breast. Hard feelings between the Blackshears and Graves seemed to exist from that day until his death. What caused the difficulty to-day is not known, but it is probably the result of an enmity which has long existed between the two men. It is said that Graves was drinking before the shooting took place. Blackshear is shot through the pit of the stomach and the wound will doubtless prove fatal.

### Young Man Badly Hurt.

PARIS, Tex., Oct. 20.—While riding on the rear end of a caboose on a Texas and Pacific freight train between Petty and High on Tuesday night John Webb of this city was thrown off and badly hurt. One arm was broken and he was badly cut about the face and head. He was picked up an hour later in an unconscious condition. Mr. Webb says while he was leaning over the railing some one behind gave him a kick that caused him to lose his balance and fall. He says he knows of no reason for the treatment he received.

### Wanted to Die.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Oct. 21.—Ennie Bohn, a prominent business man of Brenham, made a desperate attempt to suicide here by jumping off the Fourth street bridge into the San Antonio river, a distance of twenty-five feet. He was rescued before his purpose was accomplished, but is still in a serious condition from the effects of the jump. He left a pathetic letter to his wife, in which he stated that he had been swindled out of an invention which he recently perfected for making paper out of cotton seed hulls.

### Stabbed in the Neck.

MIDLOTHIAN, Tex., Oct. 19.—Mike McCabe was badly cut at the section house Tuesday night. One stab in the neck. His left arm, after being mutilated with the knife, was broken by a blow with a club. The cutter escaped on the north-bound Santa Fe train yesterday morning. Officers are on the trail.

### Shot at a Burglar.

COHICANA, Tex., Oct. 20.—A burglar attempted to break into the Pacific express office Tuesday night. A Angus chased the party, firing four shots at him. It is reported that a physician has a patient who has been shot three times. The matter is being investigated.

### Negro Stabbed.

BONHAM, Tex., Oct. 20.—Wednesday a difficulty occurred between two colored men four miles west of here, during which Ellis Jones was cut across the neck, making a serious wound.

### Broke Both Arms.

HENDERSON, Tex., Oct. 20.—Seth Jones, while repairing an awning fell 12 feet off a step ladder and broke both arms at the wrist.

## TEXAS CONDENSATIONS

Culled and Carefully Arranged from the Latest Dailies of the State.

### A MIRROR OF RECENT OCCURRENCES.

Happenings, Gossip, Shock, Improvements, and Items of General Interest Rendered Readable and Entertaining.

Andy Costen, a citizen of Wise county, was wounded in 1864 on a retreat from Dalton, Ga. The ball entered just above the right eye and lodged in his right jaw, and since the wound healed has never pained him until recently, when a physician examined it, which resulted in the physician extracting it from the place where it had been nineteen years. The ball weighs 457 grains and has its original shape.

The colored people have been working quietly for some time to build an orphan's home for colored children. A session of the orphan's home association was held at Corsicana recently. A board of directors and officers were elected and a traveling agent placed in the field. They will locate the home in Navarro county.

Mr. C. J. Dumstrom in Bee county has found a wild tobacco growing on his ranch which for delicacy of perfume and strength is not surpassed by the real Havana article. The leaves are small, but this can be improved by cultivation.

At Houston Jesse Douglas, a negro, has been arrested and jailed and among other things found on his person was a conjure bag containing a broken dime, a rabbit's foot, a piece of human bone, broken glass and other trinkets.

Charles Graham, colored, was convicted of stealing household goods and a number of chickens from another negro, and sentenced to two years in the penitentiary by the district court at Boston, Bowie county, a few days ago.

The September report of Superintendent Whitley of the penitentiaries shows the following movement of convicts: On hand, 3829; received since, 55; recaptured, 6; total, 3882. Discharged, died, etc., 115. On hand Oct. 1, 3763.

City Marshall Velvin, the two Andersons and Policemen English and Luttrell, all of Greenville, charged with murdering young Doggett some time ago, have been granted bail in the sum of \$3000 each.

At Springs, Harris county, fires from passing trains have done much damage, burning all the grass and in many cases crops fences and other property. The loss reaches into the thousands of dollars.

For three days recently fire raged in the woods near Huntsville. Fences and crops have been destroyed as well as timber. Two farm houses were also reported burned. The loss is heavy.

James Ethridge, who lived at Garland, in Dallas county, went to Dallas city recently, got full of whisky, showed his money and was later in the night murdered and robbed. No clew.

Master Tolle and Ben Corder, aged respectively 8 and 10 years, sons of J. G. Corder, who lives near Georgetown, picked over 100 pounds of cotton piece in one day recently.

The 3882 convicts of the state are located as follows: On contract farms, 971; share farms, 258; Harlan state farm, 192; on railroads, 175; at Huntsville, 1934; at Rusk, 115.

The residence of Frank Boyd, who lives twelve miles from Weatherford, was entered by burglars recently. They secured some \$25 cash. The family was in the field at work.

While Seils Bros.' circus was parading the streets at Paris a few days ago burglars entered the rear of Lewis & Conway's store and tapped the safe to the amount of \$150. No clew.

Miss Elsie Pagel, who was so badly burned at San Antonio a few days ago by the explosion of a gasoline stove, had both her hands amputated. This was necessary to save her life.

At Hitchcock, Galveston county, recently, Ed Dinney cut Mike Ring. Justice McComb sent Ring to the hospital and Dinney to jail to await development of Ring's condition.

Bertha Stern has sued Fred Erickson, deputy marshal of Houston, for \$1100 damages. He entered her room without warrant under her protest, disturbing her while sick.

A Miss Duncan and a Mr. Stockman, on their way to the strip, were recently married on horseback at Seymour, Baylor county, by the Rev. R. P. Hanson.

The immense pine forests sixteen miles north of Hempstead are reported on fire. It is estimated that fifty miles of timber at least will be destroyed.

All the cases on the docket of the federal court at Graham having been continued, the court adjourned for the term, after sitting less than a week.

The West Dallas school precinct has voted a tax of 1 of 1 per cent to extend the scholastic term, and also 1 of 1 per cent to build a good school building.

The International and Great Northern railroad bridge on Hurricane bayou in Houston county, was burned recently, delaying trains half a day.

The distillery at Lewisville, Denton county, has begun work. It has a capacity of one barrel per day, and consumes twenty-six bushels of corn.

R. S. Smith has been given a verdict for \$5000 at San Antonio against the Galveston, Harrisburg and San Antonio railway for personal damages.

Officers Frazier and Ballard raided a couple of small gambling houses at Hillsboro recently and succeeded in running in seventeen of the "boys."

The oldest dress in Cleburne is the property of Mrs. S. C. Lockett. It belonged to his grandmother when she was a girl and is 103 years old.

Ninety-eight pounds of ducks and prairie chickens were shipped from Devers, Liberty county, to New Orleans the same day recently.

A. W. Ginty had been drinking very hard for some time at Waeider, Gonzales county, and the other morning he was found dead in bed.

A pelican measuring 8 feet 3 inches from tip to tip, and 5 feet 3 inches from bill to tail was killed on the lake near Hillsboro, recently.

A. A. Allen has been appointed general manager of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas railway system with offices at Denison.

At Austin Ollie Ackland, a woman living in "Mexico" attempted suicide by poison recently but failed, her recovery being probable.

At the late term of the district court in Waller county, ten divorces were granted, and the grand jury returned sixty-six bills.

Dr. P. M. Holmesley of Hallinger had his arm caught in a gin recently and so badly injured that amputation was necessary.

An eagle was killed in Richland bottom, near Corsicana, a few days ago which measured seven feet from tip to tip.

John Schneider, aged 50 years, was recently run over by a street car in Dallas and both legs broken.

David Reed fell dead near San Marcos. It is believed that smoking cigarettes was the cause.

Recently at Corrigan, Polk county, John Mahls took an overdose of Chloride, from which he died.

A considerable tract of cedar brake, sixteen miles from Brenham, has been burning for several days.

There were 350 wagon loads of cotton seed sold in one day recently at Taylor for \$16 per ton.

Jim White has confessed to having murdered Bob Ford at Beaumont some time since and is in jail.

Some \$2977 has been recently received at the state treasury from the three lunatic asylums.

Twenty car loads of pine logs per day are being shipped from Hardin county to Beaumont.

Denison is soon to have a flower show. Pear, plum and apple trees are in bloom there.

Apples measuring from 12 to 14 inches were raised this season in Montague county.

The people in the Red Oak precinct of Ellis county have voted to keep hogs in pens.

Two thousand acres of grass have been destroyed by recent fires in Victoria county.

At Leonard, Fannin county, H. Diggs recently had one finger torn off by a gin saw.

A number of farmers living in Caldwell county are talking of boring artesian wells.

Two Choctaws had a fist fight on the court house square at Paris recently.

The Idlewild club of Dallas will give their tenth annual ball October 24.

Rain is needed in Burleson, Waller, Montgomery and Walker counties.

The city council of Dallas has voted to issue \$100,000 more of bonds.

The rate of taxation in Austin is \$2.04 on the \$100 of property.

A federal fish hatching station is to be established at San Marcos.

Considerable frost fell recently at Wortham, Freestone county.

The late grand jury of Parker county found only fifteen bills.

Sabine Pass now has seventeen feet of water at low tide.

The cotton mill at Dallas is now running full time.

Henrietta is figuring on a system of waterworks.

Beeville is to have a system of waterworks.

On November 2 the Hill county fair will open.

Cleburne has 217 school children.

Marshall has scarlett fever.

## BRAINS NEEDED IN BURGLARY

Much Time and Labor Expended When the Booty is Worth While.

Few people have an idea of the immense amount of labor, forethought and scientific skill brought to bear on a big burglary, says a writer in the New York Recorder. The first thing necessary is to find a house containing sufficient valuables to repay the trouble and risk, and this first step alone may take many weeks. Let it be understood that only the highest class of expert burglars are meant; men with comfortable banking accounts, and houses of their own and who, after reducing the risk to a minimum by elaborate plans acquire enough in one night to keep them in affluence and eminent respectability for more than a year, although having but a third share, as these burglaries are invariably worked by three. To illustrate the wonderful resource and leisurely way of proceeding adopted by burglars take a case related by a prominent detective. The principal of the burglars in this instance, having fixed on a certain house was unable to acquire sufficient information concerning it and the owners. This man then went to the local butcher supplying the house and applied for a situation as driver of one of his carts which delivered meat at customers' residences. After producing unquestionable references (how obtained no one ever knew) the man was engaged on the round, which included the house fixed upon. Incredible as it may appear, he stayed with his employer for over seven months, and gave the utmost satisfaction; his only failing being a weakness for chatting with the servants. Five days after his resignation a gigantic burglary was effected at the house selected, and property valued at over \$25,000 was stolen. The thieves had smoked several cigars and drank a bottle of port, so that they were in no hurry, and to crown all the booty was conveyed to its destination in the owner's pony phaeton, which was duly returned the same night, but no real clew was afforded, and the burglars were never captured.

On another occasion a chambermaid was escorted out, with a view to matrimony (and burglary), for two months before the event came off. A conveyance is always at hand, and generally of stylish appearance, in fact on one occasion a brougham was used which the passers-by, and even the policeman on the beat imagined was the property of one of the residents close by. As regards tools, very few are necessary, owing to the skill and ingenuity of the operator. With a jimmy, spreader, drill, a few pieces of strong bent wire and a little gunpowder, the expert burglar can make his way anywhere. To these are sometimes added a set of "stumpers." These are lengths of fine steel wire, with pointed stakes about a foot long attached to each end, and half a dozen of these make but little bulk. These stumpers are fixed on the lawn or paths about the house in such a way that the wires are raised about six inches from the ground, and prove such a success in case of pursuit that the burglars are compelled to hang pieces of white paper from the wires in order to escape their own traps, as they always run over them.

Mistaken Kindness to a Crocodile.

The superstition of the Hindoo displayed itself in a strange fashion not long ago. Some fishermen at Kidderpore, on the Hooghly, had captured a crocodile, and being unable to kill it, were compelling it to accompany them to the nearest police station—were "running it in," as we say—for the sake of the reward usually offered for such creatures. On the way a native gentleman met them, and persuaded them, for a bribe to allow the animal to return to the river. In doing this foolish action he argued that, having shown kindness to it, the crocodile would not attack him and his family when they went to bathe. It is to be hoped that the police man possessed more sense in the water than he owned on shore, else his life would not be worth the purchasing if he came within reach of that selfsame crocodile.

### Large Cities.

Of cities with more than 100,000 population England has thirty, Germany twenty-four, France and Russia each twelve, Italy ten, Austria-Hungary six, Spain five, Belgium, the Scandinavian states, Roumania and the Balkan islands each four, the Netherlands three, Portugal two the total in Europe being 116 great cities. Asia has 195, China having fifty-three and British India thirty. In Africa there are seven, in America forty, of which the United States have twenty-six; South America nine. Australia has only two large cities.

### Drinkers Ahead.

Antie, anxiously—Do you think you have had the proper training for a poor man's wife?

Sweet Girl—Yes indeed. Papa hasn't given me any spending money worth mentioning for years. I always get things charged.